

THE SCROLL

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Students to engage in culture, academics

Kate Brycheeva
Entertainment Co-Editor

Just two days after current seniors become alumni, a group of O'Gorman students will be boarding a plane for Puerto Rico, a small island located between the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea.

As many as 37 students decided to join Mrs. Kelly Brose, a Spanish teacher, on this journey. She has wanted to take a trip with the students for 10 years – when they last traveled. Puerto Rico is a U.S. island territory and due to its location, the island enjoys tropical weather year-round.

The group plans to visit numerous famous sights, including El Yunque National Forest. The forest offers a wide variety of natural features – trails going through jungles, waterfalls and viewpoints with breathtaking sights. Another famous location is Camuy Caves, which consists of over 200 caves, some large enough to make skyscrapers disappear.

"I'm excited to go zip lining," said Brose. "It's something that you can't do here."

On the contrary to nature, they will also be exploring more urban areas – San Juan, which is the capital and the biggest city, and Ponce, second largest and considered the prettiest city, featuring neoclassical buildings and glorious fountains.

Students will be able to immerse themselves into the real environment and practice their targeted language. The trip requires constant use of language on a daily basis. The tour guide leading the group will give the tours in Spanish only.

"It'll be really cool to be around a different culture and travel with my friends. I'm expecting the trip to be a lot of fun," said senior Alya Abourezk. "I'm sure we're going to have a great time. I definitely think the trip is going to be beneficial. It's often hard for us to get a lot of practice, especially being in South Dakota. It'll be nice for us to get a chance to really put what we learned into practice."

"Our goal is always to have fun and learn new things," said Brose.



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Father Haggerty speaks to the senior class about continuing the Catholic faith in college at the annual all school retreat. The senior retreat day was held on Thursday, April 24 at St. George's Catholic Cathedral in Hartford, South Dakota.

Exchange program continues to grow; students to travel abroad this summer

Kayler Nelson
Editor-in-Chief

As the school year is coming to a close and one adventure is coming to an end, for many another adventure is just beginning. For 23 O'Gorman students the trip of a life time is just around the corner.

The O'Gorman students, accompanied by five Vermillion students, will venture thousands of miles to Germany.

This is the second time O'Gorman students will study in Germany under the advising of Frau Kuchenbecker. The group has expanded from six to 23.

Students eligible for the trip must have a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale, have completed two years of German language and be enrolled in a German language course for the following year. This is in addition to being open to hosting a German counterpart, being introduced to the culture and of course a record of good behavior.

A total of 28 students will begin their trip flying into Düsseldorf and then driving to where they will stay with their host families for two weeks in Dillen-



KNIGHT SCROLL

Students of last year's Germany exchange trip stand in front of Sanssouci Castle in Potsdam, Germany.

burg.

During this two week stay with the host families, students will attend classes with their host brother/sister, attend a church service, prepare and deliver presentations, along with various other activities planned by the individual host families.

After the two week stay in Dillenburg the group will then travel throughout the rest of Ger-

many to places such as: Rostock, Schwerin, Wandlitz, Potsdam, Berlin, Munich and others.

"This trip provides students with an exposure to the German language and culture that is outside of school," said Kuchenbecker. "It gives them an opportunity to look at the world from different viewpoints and cultures."

The group plans on visiting sites such as historic castles and

concentration camps.

"It'll be great. I can't wait," said junior Daniel Waddell. "I've never been overseas before and It'll be such a unique experience."

The German trip will be chaperoned by Kuchenbecker and Vermillion High School's Michael Dendinger.

The trip will be May 24 to June 15.

Mathematics department chair to retire after 35 years

Samantha Lenz
Opinion Editor

After more than 39 years of empowering young minds, Darlene Dunn will retire from her teaching position at O'Gorman High School.

"Mrs. Dunn has led the O'Gorman math department for over two decades through different change in curriculum and standards," said assistant principal Joan Mahoney, who has worked alongside Dunn for 24 years. "She ensured that our math department never strayed too far from center even when education in general saw more abrupt swings." "The consistent success of our students in their post-secondary math classes is a tribute to Mrs. Dunn and her department."

In the middle of the year before graduating from South Dakota State University, Dunn received a teaching job in Gary, S.D. She spent four and a half years at Gary High School and other schools before making O'Gorman her teaching home.

For the last 35 years O'Gorman has had the opportunity to experience Dunn's knowledge in Al-

gebra I, Algebra II and Geometry, including the introductory, average and the advanced levels in all these courses.

"Teaching is a rewarding career that involves a lot more than standing in front of a class for 45 minutes," said Dunn. "Every class is unique so it never gets boring."

While Dunn will retire from her position as teacher of Advanced Geometry and Algebra II, she isn't completely finished working at O'Gorman. Dunn looks forward to continuing tutoring during the lunch study halls.

"The fun part of teaching is getting to know the students helping every one of them succeed," said Dunn.

Including leaving her teaching position, Dunn will also be leaving her post as Mathematics Department Chair.

"As a colleague she has been a great source of information and support, especially during the switch to the new building and to the common core standards," said Rick Lynch, who has worked next to Dunn for 31 years.

"Mainly, she was always there to bounce things off of. She is a great listener. She also has a great

gift of being able to remember everything going on in her colleagues' lives. You knew she always cared."

Although Dunn says the decision to retire was a difficult one, she intends to keep busy volunteering at her church, spending time with friends and walking daily.

"I look forward to not having school work in the evenings and on weekends," said Dunn.

Another plus of retirement allows Dunn to focus on time with her grandchildren and husband.

"I enjoy working with the students, but my husband is retired, and we want to be free to do a little traveling," said Dunn. "I am also looking forward to spending more time with my three grandchildren."

Over the last 39 years Dunn has helped countless students comprehend mathematics.

"You don't go into teaching for the money," said Dunn. "The big reward is when a former student tells you that you made a difference in their life."

Dunn has impacted many students' minds through her patience and positive attitude.

After 12 years at school, Britton steps down as head of music education

Ben Rogers
Sports Co-Editor

After 38 years of teaching music education Mrs. Cathy Britton is stepping down from her duty as head of the choral department at O'Gorman.

Britton has been at O'Gorman for 12 years; before that she taught at Washington High School for 11 years, Patrick Henry Middle School for eight years, then as a music aide at Washington High School for three years, Warner for two years and Westfield for a single year.

"Mrs. Britton has certainly earned her retirement," said senior Meghan Kunkel. "After teaching for almost 40 years she deserves to get some time off."

Britton received her education at the University of South Dakota with a bachelor in fine arts and proceeded to receive her masters in education there also.

Her duties at O'Gorman consisted of teaching Concert Choir, Mixed Chorus, Chamber Choir, assisting with KnightLights, and ninth grade girls chorus.

"Mrs. Britton has been a

great teacher and model for her students to follow," said Kunkel, "I am really glad I got to have her for my four years."

One of the more prolific and fun activities that Britton put on each year was the annual Concert Choir Capers.

"Capers is so much fun. This being my senior year it was so special to me and all the other seniors," said senior Lauren Witte. "I am so glad that I got to be a part of Mrs. Britton's last Capers."

Kunkel certainly agrees with Witte and applauds Britton's hard work and determination towards her students and her job.

"All the hard work that Mrs. Britton puts into the year and especially Capers each year is amazing," said Kunkel, "I know I could not have pulled it off with the class she did."

This year Capers was held on Jan. 27 at the Sioux Falls convention center with a formal dinner accompanying the show which featured songs and skits from the entire choir department.

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GO HOG WILD!
IT'S TIME FOR GRADUATION PARTIES



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The senior class takes a lunch break at the All School Retreat. Every class participated in the annual All School Retreat on April 24.

Church celebrates Saints on feast days through prayer

Kayler Nelson
Editor-in-Chief

As the Easter season is winding down and there are now two new Saints in the Kingdom of Heaven, it's important to recognize the significance of feast days for Saints.

The Church has numerous feast days throughout the year in order to celebrate the events that relate to the earthly life of our Lord and the Saints.

A Saint's feast day can be the day of their actual death or a day assigned by the Church. Typically, the Church only assigns a day when the date of death is unknown or if several other Saints are already assigned to that day. Some Saints' feasts are only celebrated in the particular Saint's town or country. Others are internationally celebrated.



Saint Anthimus

On the feast day the Saints are remembered with special mention, prayers and possibly a

scripture reading during mass.

During the month of May, the Church has feast days for hundreds of Saints. This includes the lesser known St. Anthimus of Rome.

St. Anthimus was a priest and a martyr during his time on Earth. This Saint dedicated his life to converting many to Catholicism.

He was caught, arrested and imprisoned for his beliefs at the time of the Emperors Diocletian and Maximian. St. Anthimus was then condemned to death by drowning. Miraculously saved, Anthimus escaped briefly but was recaptured and beheaded. He died in the year 303.

The Catholic Church celebrates St. Anthimus' feast day on May 11.

Faith, prayer central focus for colleges

Kate Brycheeva
Entertainment Co-Editor

Starting in May seniors will begin their journey, each one walking their own path and leaving their own traces in history. For four years O'Gorman has contributed to the spiritual life of its students, and some of them have decided to continue growing in their faith by attending a Catholic college.

Top Catholic institution choices of this year are University of St. Thomas and Creighton University. Several O'Gorman seniors shared their thoughts on becoming freshmen in college this fall.

"I enjoyed getting a Catholic education," said Joseph Sulaiman. "I am looking forward to meeting new people and being involved. I will have to take religion classes, which always helps me grow in the faith, and going to Creighton will help me get to mass often."

Both Alex Linneman and Jenna Czarnecki will be attending St. Thomas University this fall, which emphasizes value-centered and career preparation.

"St. Thomas will help me to grow in my faith and will allow me to talk about it," said Linneman. "I think it will be cool to have the chance to do things that I probably haven't done before and to learn things that I haven't learned before. I'm also looking forward to making a bunch of new friends while I'm

"My family has been a big factor in my decision to attend a Catholic college"

- Jenna Czarnecki

in college."

"My family has been a big factor in my decision to attend a Catholic college," said Czarnecki. "My parents have supported me as I have fallen more and more in love with my faith. I am looking forward to meeting new people in college and expanding my view of the world. I am excited to live out my faith next year."

One of the biggest aspects of going to a Catholic school is possibilities to work on one's faith. All the schools have plenty of opportunities to take on.

"I plan on developing my faith life next year by first taking complete responsibility for it," said Linneman. "At home I always have my parents to push me. I hope to make plenty of friends that are interested in the faith that can help me to grow in mine. Additionally, I would like to potentially get involved in campus ministry or some sort of service program while I am there. I think that this would be a great way to meet other kids of faith and to grow in my own."

Theology teacher to leave, will be missed by students, staff

Cheyenne Chontos
Faith Editor

This spring O'Gorman is once again losing one of the members of its theology department, Joseph Head. Head has been a Morality and Justice and Scripture teacher at O'Gorman for a year.

Head is originally from Bloomington, Ill. and will be moving back there after this school year with his fiancé. Their wedding is planned for this July.

"We wanted to be closer to family," said Head. "I'll actually be teaching at my old high school next year."

While Head is excited to move back to his home town and continue teaching, he said he is also going to miss O'Gorman and all of his theology students.

"The community [at O'Gorman] is amazing," said Head. "The students and the teachers are great. It's a really fun atmosphere."

Head has become a friendly face for students, whether or not he has them in class.

"Students respect Mr. Head because he's someone they can relate to," said junior Andrea Veloira. Veloira did not have Head as a teacher but preformed with



Joseph Head

him in the Spring Fling Variety Show this school year. "I think he

fits in well with the teachers, especially the theology department, but I also think he fits in with the students. I feel like he's really going to be missed by everyone."

One of Head's strengths as a theology teacher is his ability to bring a sense of humor to the classroom while still helping students reach their full spiritual potential.

"Mr. Head helped me grow a lot in my faith this year," said sophomore Ben Merritt. "He's got a comfortable teaching style and is really fun in class."

His young age and strong theology background also contribute

to Head's strengths as a teacher.

"As a young person, [Head] brings a special gift as a role model for our students," said theology department head, Sister Kathryn Easley. "He has been just a blessing to our department. We are sad to watch him go but thrilled to see him moving forward in his life. We're very happy that we had him for the time that we did. We wish him well."

As for the future, Head said that he hopes to still be teaching and to possibly be starting a family with his wife. He plans on staying involved as much as he can with youth ministry.



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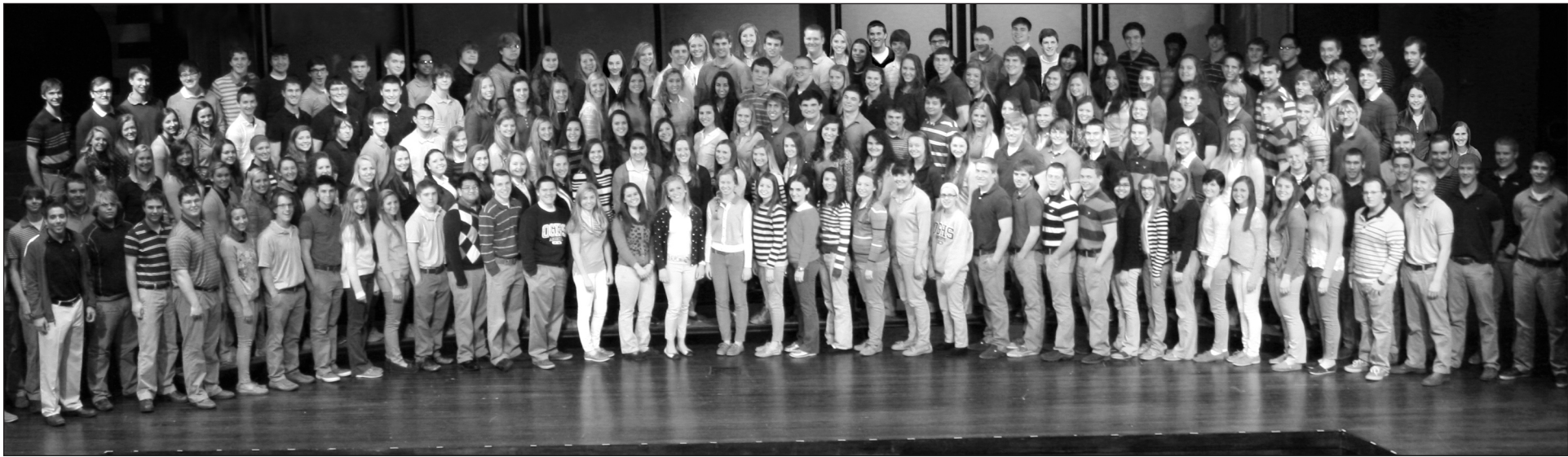
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SUBMITTED PHOTO

The O’Gorman High School class of 2014 will graduate on May 18 at the Augustana Elmen Center.

Senior standout Czarnecki to play tennis at St. Thomas

Tommy Entwistle
Sports Co-Editor

Jenna Czarnecki, a senior standout on the court and in the classroom, has committed to attend the University of St. Thomas.

To say that Jenna is involved at O’Gorman would be a drastic understatement. Just in her senior year alone she has been a key member on the tennis team, cheered for basketball and participated in musical. She has also found time for her studies and is a member of National Honor Society and maintains a 4.0 GPA.

“St. Thomas was the best fit for my studies and my faith life,” said Czarnecki. “I will even have time to continue playing the sport I love.”

Czarnecki has been in the varsity lineup beginning in her freshman year and has helped the team win a state team title in each one of her years on the team. She helped the team to win its seventh straight team title. And her doubles play was second to none as she teamed up with junior Morgan Brower to win three flight one state doubles titles.

“Jenna will definitely be missed on



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jenna Czarnecki has to bend to dig out a shot at last season’s state tournament at McKennan Park in Sioux Falls. Czarnecki went on to win the state doubles title with junior Morgan Brower.

the team next year. She is a great player and an even better teammate,” said Brower. “She always stayed positive on the court and helped us stay relaxed.”

St. Thomas has a strong tennis program that is always in contention for the conference title in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and a spot in the NCAA division three tournament.

Czarnecki will be playing for Terry Peck who has been the women’s coach for the Tommies for 18 seasons and just last year surpassed 500 total career wins.

“I’m so grateful for all of the opportunities I have had at O’Gorman and I can’t wait to be a Tommie,” said Czarnecki.

What Saint do you most admire and why?

“I admire St. Anthony who finds lost things because I feel most high schoolers are lost things.”

- Erin McInerney

“I admire St. Isidore the Father because he was a simple, humble man who dedicated his life entirely to demonstrating God’s love to others.”

- Max Marko

“I admire St. Michael the Archangel because he’s like a superhero in the Saint world.”

- Anna Perry

“I admire St. Joan of Arc because she was a knight and stood strong in her faith despite being condemned.”

-Jef Thormodsgard

Senior Class Prayer

Divine Protector,
Thank you for guiding us through the everyday battles of our generation.
Strengthen us to rise above the darkness and seek the light of Christ.
Help us to find ourselves by trusting in You.
Give us the faith of your saints, and allow us to become the saints of today.
In You we are united.
Through You we will change the world.
Amen.

Senior ready to move on to next stage in theater

Cheyenne Chontos
Faith Editor

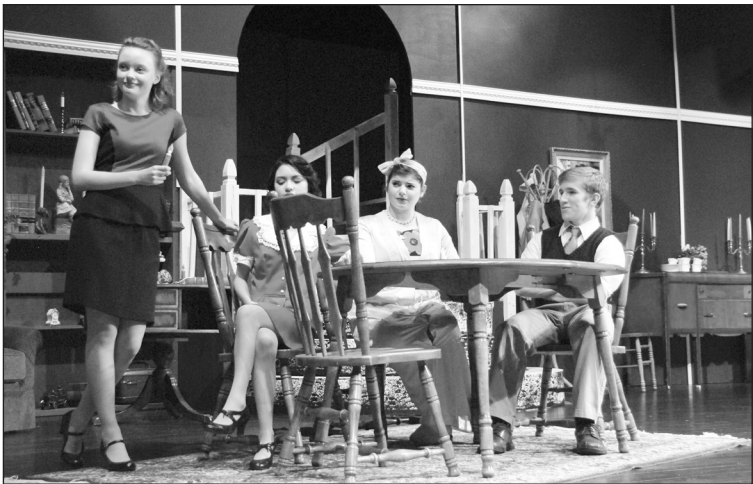
With more than 25 plays under her belt and a clear love for the stage, senior Clara Bentz is on the road to working with theater for the rest of her life. This fall Bentz will be attending Stephens College in Columbia, Miss. She plans on getting her major in theater with an emphasis in management direction and a minor in business.

Bentz found Stephens College through alumni of the school, including one of the directors of the Dakota Academy of Performing Arts – also known as DAPA, a theater and music program offered through the Washington Pavilion. Bentz is a member of the DAPA program, along with being an active member of the O’Gorman drama department.

Much like she spent her time at O’Gorman, Bentz plans on being heavily involved in the theater program during her college career. “I’m going in like an actor,” said Bentz. “I’m looking forward to the independence, but I’m also excited to go to the next level in theater.”

O’Gorman Director of Forensics Teresa Fester has worked with Bentz throughout her high school career.

“[Clara] has definitely gained opportunity by going to O’Gorman,” said Fester.



KNIGHT SCROLL

Senior Clara Bentz (left) plays lawyer Lois Van Zandt in the O’Gorman Fall Play, *Murder’s in the Heir*. Bentz will be attending Stephens College this fall.

ter. “O’Gorman provides quality shows that definitely prepare students for college and beyond.”

Scott Nelson, an O’Gorman director and English and speech teacher, agreed that O’Gorman provides several opportunities for those interested in acting.

“I really believe we have a family here,” said Nelson. “The students can make so many connections and meet a lot of different people.”

Bentz hopes to use the skills she’s gained from O’Gorman and the drama department in her theater career.

“In five years I should be out of the Stephen’s program,” said Bentz. “Hopefully I’ll be somehow involved with acting, whether that’s working back-

stage or acting. The most important thing to me is to be able to support myself while doing what I love.”

As for other students who are interested in acting, Bentz shared a few words of advice.

“Go for it,” said Bentz. “O’Gorman is blessed to have such a beautiful performing arts center and a fantastic program.”

Fester and Nelson also encourage students to get involved with the program.

“Continue to seek new knowledge,” said Fester. “Also, enjoy the process as much as the performance.”

Nelson carried a similar sentiment. “Have fun,” said Nelson. “And when it comes to theater, never grow up.”

Senior most likely to...

Become an educator

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Alexis Soldatke | 1. Tanner Schulte |
| 2. Erica Schumacher | 2. James Carrell |
| 3. Tessa Davis | 3. Chris Sharpe |

Enter the business world

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Anna Perry | 1. Sam Breske |
| 2. Erin Vogel | 2. Kylin Nelson |
| 3. Audra Garrigan | 3. Connor Nerland |

Enter the technology field

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Genna Girard | 1. Micah Picasso |
| 2. Nicole Clemen | 2. Matt Czmowski |
| 3. Lauren Witte | 3. Connor Bergh |

Enter politics

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Audra Garrigan | 1. Sam Breske |
| 2. Catie Dougherty | 2. Ben Rogers |
| 3. Anna Perry | 3. Chris Sharpe |

Enter the medical field

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Nicole Clemen | 1. Chris Downey |
| 2. Anne Prouse | 2. Isaac Althoff |
| 3. Bekah Ridder | 3. Max Donohue |

Enter the entertainment field

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Clara Bentz | 1. James Carrell |
| 2. Meg Garry | 2. Joe Pietz |
| 3. Kieren Humke | 3. Andrew Sammons |

Travel the world

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Kieren Humke | 1. Joe Sulaiman |
| 2. Parker Jones | 2. Chris Downey |
| 3. Madi Marino | 3. Brendan Branick |

Enter the religious life

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. Bekah Ridder | 1. Max Marko |
| 2. Nicole Clemen | 2. Isaiah Lamb |
| 3. Alexis Soldatke | 3. Ben Rogers |

Enter Arts/Humanities field

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Erin McNerney | 1. Will Tiensvold |
| 2. Madi Marino | 2. Jef Thormodsgard |
| 3. Clara Bentz | 3. James Carrell |

Favorite High School Memories

“Chris Sharpe Day.”

-Justin Kautz

“Winning the State Farm money, but everyone was more excited for the cupcakes.”

-Abby Thuringer

“The Dakota Bowl always meant good memories.”

-Haley Laughlin

“Back to back state bowling champs.”

-Glenn Byllesby

“Going on a 34 hour bus ride to Orlando with the marching band. Best week of my life!”

-Max Marko

“Winning state volleyball!”

-McKayla Hermanson

“All the many late nights spent in the costume room with Dexter and the costumers.”

-Erin Vogel

“Winning the state golf title my senior year.”

-Max Donohue

“Making friends from all over the world.”

-Jessie Su

“Getting those awesome water bottle fillers.”

-Nick Booth